

HIGHLIGHTS

INDIANA PUBLIC DEFENDER COMMISSION

DATE OF MEETING: June 23, 2010

- 1. Introduction of new Commission Member, Hon. Mary Ellen Diekhoff.**
- 2. Approval of Minutes from 03/24/10 Meeting.**
Approved.
- 3. LaGrange County Comprehensive Plan.**
Approved.
- 4. Representatives from Howard County.**
Steve Racquet, Chief Public Defender, presented program for achieving compliance in caseload maximums. The Commission voted to approve payment of the 1Q10 reimbursement to Howard County.
- 5. Representatives from Lake County.**
Dave Schneider, Chief Public Defender, discussed difficulties with budget cuts ordered by the county council and maintaining compliance with Commission Standards. Also discussed whether counties were using Public Defense Fund reimbursements towards public defense or to shore up other accounts in the county's general fund.
- 6. Staff Counsel Memoranda.**
5 New Counties interested in Public Defender Fund reimbursement program. The estimated additional cost of new counties to the Fund in 2011 is \$770,000. Caseload compliance discussed and Tippecanoe County to be invited to September meeting.
- 7. Collateral Costs of Conviction**
Staff Counsel, Michele Lofthouse, prepared memorandum on collateral costs of conviction, such as loss of housing, loss of ability to obtain student loans, loss of public assistance, loss of social security disability, etc. The memorandum is available to counties.
- 8. Compliance Summary and Warning Letters.**
- 9. Financial Status of Public Defense Fund.**
State Budget Agency took \$25,344 from Fund for costs allocation. There is \$2 million in the fund at this time, however, claims and expenses total \$3.9 million. Claims will be paid after distribution of appropriation July 1, 2010.

10. Requests for 50% Reimbursement in Capital Cases.

Approved \$157,154.52 in claims.

11. Requests for 40% Reimbursement in Non-Capital Cases.

Approved \$3,748,211.96 in claims.

12. Other Matters: Indiana Public Defender Council – Larry Landis.